

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 ACDA-07 TRSE-00 EB-08 OMB-01 ERDA-05
OES-07 /087 W

-----077265 131706Z /44

R 131402Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3532
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
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AMEMBASSY PARIS

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BELGRADE ALSO FOR USDEL CSCE

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: CSCE, WTO, COMECON, BU, RO
SUBJECT: CEAUCESCU VISITS BULGARIA

1. SUMMARY: CEAUCESCU VISITED BULGARIA SEPT 5-8 AS PART
OF SERIES OF ANNUAL EXCHANGES OF VISITS. PUBLIC STATEMENTS
WERE AMICABLE BUT DID NOT DISGUISE TWO COUNTRIES' DIFFERENCES,
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PARTICULARLY IN THEIR APPROACHES TO CSCE, CEMA INTEGRATION,
BALKAN COOPERATION, AND RESPECTIVE ATTITUDES TOWARD USSR.
VISIBLE RESULT OF VISIT WAS SOME 13 ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL/
TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENTS. END SUMMARY.

2. ROMANIAN PRESIDENT AND MRS. CEAUCESCU WITH LARGE
ENTOURAGE OF GOVERNMENT AND PARTY OFFICIALS PAID "OFFI-

CIAL, FRIENDLY VISIT" TO BULGARIA SEPT 5-8. MET AT AIR-PORT BY ZHIVKOV AND LARGE BCP AND GOB PARTY, CEAUCESCU WAS GIVEN LARGE, PUBLIC WELCOME, REplete WITH CROWD WAVING TYPICAL-FOR-BULGARIA BUT POSSIBLY ANNOYING-TO-CEAUCESCU SOVIET, BULGARIAN, AND ROMANIAN FLAGS. THERE WERE ZHIVKOV/CEAUCESCU MEETINGS, DELEGATION/DELEGATION MEETINGS, AND TECHNICAL LEVEL MEETINGS. THERE WAS A STATE DINNER, ZHIVKOV/CEAUCESCU VISIT TO COMPUTER PLANT, NEW DEPARTMENT STORE, AND AGRO-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX AT STARA ZAGORA SEPT 6, MASS MEETING ORGANIZED BY SOFIA BCP COMMITTEE, EXCHANGES OF TOASTS, A DECLARATION, AND A COMMUNIQUE, THE LATTER WITH NOT ONE MENTION OF THE SOVIET UNION.

3. SOME 13 COMMERCIAL, ECONOMIC, AND TECHNICAL POINTS WERE AGREED UPON, INCLUDING PROTOCOL FOR EXQNSION OF TRADE IN PERIOD 1978-80, AGREEMENT FOR DIRECT SCIENTIFIC/ TECHNICAL COOPERATION IN RESEARCH, PROJECTION, AND TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT IN ELECTRONICS AND ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING, AND 140 MILLION LEVA TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN MINISTRIES OF MACHINE BUILDING FOR BULGARIA TO DELIVER DIESEL ENGINES, WHEEL RIMS, AND JACKS, AND ROMANIA TO DELIVER TRUCK AND BUS CHASSIS AND FUEL INSTALLATIONS FOR DIESEL ENGINES IN PERIOD 1978-82.

4. SEPT 8 JOINT DECLARATION, SIGNED BY ZHIVKOV AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CEAUCESCU, CALLED FOR "FURTHER STRENGTHENING OF FRATERNAL FRIENDSHIP AND DEEPENING OF COLLABORATION BETWEEN BCP AND RCP" AND BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES. VERY INCIDENTAL MENTION AND NO PRAISE FOR SOVIET UNION WAS INCLUDED IN DECLARATION. COMMUNIQUE WAS DESCRIBED AS "AGREEMENT FOR INCREASING CONSULTATIONS ON INTERNATIONAL MATTERS BETWEEN BCP AND RCP" AND TWO COUNTRIES. NO MENTION WAS MADE OF SOVIET UNION IN COMMUNIQUE.

5. POINTS OF DIFFERENCE EMERGED IN TOASTS AND OTHER PUBLIC DECLARATIONS. ZHIVKOV'S SEPT 5 DINNER TOAST CALLED FOR GREATER CEMA INTEGRATION. TWO COUNTRIES STANDING "SHOULDER-TO-SHOULDER FULFILL THE COMMON PROGRAM FOR SOCIALIST ECONOMIC INTEGRATION." HE ALSO SPOKE OF IMPORTANCE OF "OUR UNITY OF ACTION AND THOUGHT" IN STRUGGLE AGAINST IMPERIALISTS AND REACTIONARIES, AND THEN PROCEEDED DIRECTLY TO DISCUSS UPCOMING BELGRADE CSCE MEETING. CEAUCESCU'S RESPONSE STRESSED CONTINUITY OF GOOD BULGARIAN/ROMANIAN BILATERAL RELATIONS AND ADVOCATED "UNIFICATION AND EVER CLOSER COOPERATION BETWEEN ALL PEOPLES." HE ALSO PLUGGED BALKAN COOPERATION (ON WHICH BULGARIANS ARE NOTABLY DRAGGING THEIR FEET) AND "NEW INTERNATIONAL

ECONOMIC ORDER." ZHIVKOV'S ADDRESS AT MASS MEETING SAID
THAT "ROOTS OF OUR SUCCESSES" WERE TWO COUNTRIES' MEMBER-
SHIP IN SOCIALIST COMMUNITY, WARSAW PACT, AND CEMA.

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CEAUCESCU'S RESPONSE AGAIN TOUCHED ON BROAD, GENERAL
LINES OF TWO COUNTRIES' POLICIES, STRESSING "RESPECT
FOR... NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY."

6. PRESS REPORT OF ZHIVKOV/CEAUCESCU SEPT 7 MEETING ON
"TOPICAL INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS" SAID THAT BULGARIA AND
ROMANIA WOULD "WORK ACTIVELY FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF HEL-
SINKI SPIRIT AND... MAKE EFFORTS TO MAKE BELGRADE MEETING
A NEW STEP FOR FURTHER ESTABLISHMENT OF PRINCIPLES OF
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FINAL ACT OF CSCE AS FOUNDATION OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS," A PERFECT EXAMPLE OF JOINT FUDGING. PROBLEMS OF MIDDLE EAST, CYPRUS, AND AFRICA WERE ALSO CONSIDERED ALTHOUGH NO STATEMENT WAS MADE. THIS PORTION OF TALKS WAS DESCRIBED BY PRESS AS HAVING TAKEN PLACE "IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF FRATERNAL FRIENDSHIP AND MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING," A FORMULATION WHICH ALLOWS FOR SOME DISAGREEMENT.

7. ROMANIAN EMBASSY COUNSELOR EMINESCU DRAGOMIR COMMENTED BRIEFLY SEPT 11 ON VISIT TO CHARGE TO EFFECT THAT MAIN EMPHASIS HAD BEEN ON ECONOMIC MATTERS, THAT THERE HAD BEEN "SHARP EXCHANGES" BETWEEN TWO SIDES IN DISCUSSING DIFFERING RELATIONSHIPS WITH SOVIET UNION, AND THAT ABSENCE OF MENTION OF SOVIET UNION IN COMMUNIQUE WAS ROMANIAN WORK, ACHIEVED AFTER SOME EFFORT.

8. BULGARIAN NOTES: ZHIVKOV'S DAUGHTER, LYUDMILA, CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE ON CULTURE, ACTED AS OFFICIAL HOSTESS AND WAS VERY MUCH IN EVIDENCE, PROBABLY IN PART BECAUSE OF PRESENCE OF MRS. CEAUCESCU. CEAUCESCUS PRESENTED 66TH BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO ZHIVKOV SEPT 7 AFTER MEETING ON INTERNATIONAL QUESTIONS. PARTY SECRETARY ALEKSANDUR LILOV DID NOT APPEAR AT ALL DURING VISIT, SUPPORTING REPORTS OF HIS SERIOUS ILLNESS. WITHOUT MENTIONING US BY NAME, ZHIVKOV HAD CRACK AT US DURING SEPT 7 "MASS MEETING" SPEECH. ACCUSING NATO OF INTENSIFIED ARMAMENT, HE ADDED, "IT IS DIFFICULT TO FIND IN HISTORY UNTIL NOW A GREATER GAP BETWEEN DEEDS AND WORDS THAN THE GAP BETWEEN THE DECGRATIONS OF SOME WESTERN POLITWCEEPFIGURES FOR HUMANISM AND THEIR ANTI-HUMANE ACTIONS, SUCH AS PRODUCTION OF NEUTRON BOMB," THUS CONTINUING THAT CAMPAIGN. (EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED TO DATE SOME 150 TELEGRAMS AND LETTERS OPPOSING NEUTRON BOMB

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PRODUCTION. SEPT 9 PARADE ALSO FEATURED THREE BAN-THE-NEUTRON-BOMB SIGNS.) CEAUCESCU DID NOT RESPOND TO NEUTRON BOMB POINT.

9. COMMENT: THIS VISIT SEEMED VERY MUCH IN LINE OF PREVIOUS ZHIVKOV/CEAUCESCU VISITS, STRESSING BILATERAL AND ESPECIALLY ECONOMIC COOPERATION BETWEEN TWO NEIGHBORS. DIFFERENCES BETWEEN TWO IN FOREIGN POLICIES INCLUDING INTERNAL RELATIONS, CLEARLY REMAIN UNRESOLVED AND WERE

MORDMCLEARLY FQNINZJTED IN PUBLIC STATEMENTS THIS TINN
THSW ON SOME PREVIOUS OCCASIONS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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